3: Roberts S-4 (no date)1951 ED1 Rumania ED1

III

AGRICULTURAL POPULATION AND PRODUCTION

121 THE course of Rumanian politics between the wars can be understood only in its economic setting; urgent economic problems constantly demanded the attention of all governments, and at the same time the prevailing poverty and economic backwardness undermined political life and contributed powerfully to the emergence of the dictatorships. This and the following chapter sketch the general features of the economic framework, with particular emphasis upon agriculture and the demographic problem. Industry, commerce, and finance are considered primarily in their relation to the agrarian question.

Population [1]

161 According to the 1930 census, Rumania had a population of
162 18,057,028 persons, the largest of any state in eastern Europe with the exception of Poland. While the density, 61 persons per square kilometer in 1930, was less than that of the more highly industrialized states of western Europe, the population was increasing at a rapid rate. Rumania had one of the highest birth rates in non-Russian Europe as well as the highest death rate. In general, its population pattern resembled that of the other states of eastern Europe, especially Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and the Soviet Ukraine, and was in marked contrast to the stable or declining populations of the West.

● 163 Eastern Europe is now passing through the phase of great popu-
165 lation growth which began in England and western Europe in the eighteenth century and has since radiated eastward. This phenomenon, one of the most important in European history, appears to have followed a definite sequence: first, a high death rate and a high birth rate, more or less in balance, giving a stable or only slightly expanding population; then the death rate dropped rapidly; finally the birth rate dropped down to or below the death rate. The lag between the fall in the death rate and the subsequent fall in the birth rate produced the great expansion of population. From current evidence

1. More complete statistical information on the population is given in the Appendix.

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it appears that in eastern Europe the birth rate has begun to decline, but its effect will not be reflected in the population for a number of years.

The decline of the death rate in the West resulted from the numerous social, hygienic, and nutritional improvements gradually introduced and disseminated over the last two centuries, all of which were slow in reaching eastern Europe. The subsequent fall in the Western birth rate appears to have been largely a conscious social restriction and not any decline in "national virility." [2] It generally accompanies a rise in living conditions and has shown a direct correlation with class differences.

The extent to which those factors bringing about the growth of population in the West apply to eastern Europe is not known with certainty. The fall in the eastern European death rate after the middle of the nineteenth century appears to have corresponded with the introduction of some of the social and hygienic improvements from the West, but it may also have resulted from a moderate improvement in internal and external security at a somewhat earlier date.[3]

Birth and death rates for Greater Rumania showed a decline during the interwar years, largely a result of drops in the rural rates. The rural birth rate in 1936, however, was still well above that of the towns (33.8 per thousand as against 21.4). The rate of natural increase, the excess of births over deaths, also displayed a perceptible decline, from over 14 per thousand inhabitants in the early 1920's to about 11 in the late 1930's. The birth rate fell greatly during the Second World War (to a low of 19.9 in 1945) and seems to have increased only slightly in the postwar years. The death rate having remained approximately the same, the rate of growth of Rumania's population has diminished tremendously under the exceptional conditions of the past decade.

Agricultural Overpopulation

While Rumania's over-all density of population is not very high as compared with that of western Europe, most of the people live on the land, and the agricultural population is quite dense. In 1941 the agricultural population of Rumania (minus Bessarabia, Northern Bucovina, Northern Transylvania, and Southern Dobrogea) represented 71.4 per cent of the total population and 94.4 per cent of the

2. Dudley Kirk, *Europe's Population in the Interwar Years* (League of Nations, 1946), p. 38.

3. A. M. Carr-Saunders, *World Population: Past Growth and Present Trends* (Oxford University Press, 1936), p. 80.

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TABLE III. REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS IN RUMANIA 162 163 165

	Area (1,000 km.²)	Population (1,000's)	Density (per km.²)	Vital Rates, 1930			Reproduction Rates	
				Birth	*Death*	*Increase*	*Gross*	*Net*
RUMANIA	295.0	18,057	61	34.2	20.1	14.1	2.16	1.40
Oltenia	24.1	1,518	63	33.7	20.4	13.3	2.11	1.37
Muntenia	52.5	4,029	77	35.4	20.1	15.3	2.22	1.44
Dobrogea	23.3	815	35	39.2	23.7	15.5	2.70	1.75
Moldavia	38.0	2,434	64	39.9	21.4	18.5	2.48	1.61
Bessarabia	44.4	2,864	64	38.3	20.8	17.5	2.57	1.67
Bucovina	10.4	853	82	31.3	19.0	12.3	1.88	1.22
Transylvania	62.2	3,218	52	30.1	18.5	11.6	2.01	1.30
Banat	18.7	940	50	21.3	18.7	2.6	1.25	.81
Crişana and Maramureş	21.3	1,390	65	28.8	19.1	9.7	1.77	1.15

SOURCE: *Ibid.*

TABLE IV. VITAL RATES IN RUMANIA

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A. The Old Kingdom, 1859–1915

Period	Vital Rates per 1,000 Inhabitants		
	Births	*Deaths*	*Excess of births over deaths*
1859–63	31.3	21.4	9.9
1864–68	33.4	28.2	5.2
1869–73	33.3	28.0	5.3
1874–78	35.4	31.3	4.1
1878–88	42.0	27.7	14.3
1889–93	40.2	30.4	9.8
1894–98	40.7	28.0	12.7
1899–1903	42.1	27.6	14.5
1904–08	40.5	25.7	14.8
1909–13	41.7	25.3	16.4
1914–15	41.3	24.0	17.3

B. Greater Rumania, 1920–46

Year	Vital Rates per 1,000 Inhabitants (U = Urban; R = Rural)		
	Births	*Deaths*	*Excess of births*
1920	34.7	26.7	8.0
U	19.7	18.3	1.4
R	39.0	29.1	9.9
1921	39.4	23.7	15.7
U	22.7	16.3	6.4
R	44.2	25.7	18.5

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Year Vital Rates per 1,000 Inhabitants (cont.) (U = Urban; R = Rural)

	Births	*Deaths*	*Excess of births*
1922	38.4	23.5	14.9
U	22.5	17.5	5.0
R	42.9	25.3	17.6
1923	37.6	23.0	14.6
U	22.3	17.2	5.1
R	41.8	24.6	17.2
1924	37.9	23.3	14.6
U	22.2	16.8	5.4
R	42.1	25.0	17.1
1925	36.3	21.7	14.6
U	20.7	15.7	5.0
R	40.5	23.3	17.2
1926	35.9	22.0	13.9
U	21.6	17.5	4.1
R	39.7	23.2	16.5
1927	35.2	22.9	12.3
U	21.4	17.4	4.0
R	38.6	24.4	14.4
1928	35.9	20.2	15.7
U	22.3	17.0	5.3
R	39.4	21.1	18.3
1929	34.0	21.4	12.6
U	21.4	18.4	3.0
R	37.3	22.2	15.1
1930	35.0	19.4	15.6
U	23.6	17.7	5.9
R	37.7	19.8	17.9
1931	33.4	20.9	12.5
U	22.3	18.8	3.5
R	36.1	21.4	14.7
1932	35.9	21.7	14.2
U	22.3	18.9	3.4
R	39.1	22.3	16.8
1933	32.0	18.7	13.3
U	20.8	17.2	3.6
R	34.7	19.1	15.6
1934	32.4	20.7	11.7
U	20.9	17.9	3.0
R	35.0	21.3	13.7
1935	30.7	21.1	9.6
U	20.7	19.3	1.4
R	33.0	21.5	11.5
1936	31.5	19.8	11.7
U	21.4	19.4	2.0
R	33.8	19.9	13.9

3: Roberts S-4 (no date)1951 ED1 Rumania ED1

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Year Vital Rates per 1,000 Inhabitants (cont.)

	Births	*Deaths*	*Excess of births*
1937	30.8	19.3	11.5
1938	29.6	19.2	10.4
1939	28.3	18.6	9.7
1940	26.5	19.1	7.4
1941	23.0	19.3	3.7
1942	21.5	19.0	2.5
1943	20.3	16.7	3.6
1944	21.7	19.6	2.1
1945	19.9	19.3	0.6
1946	23.7	18.0	5.7

SOURCES: Sabin Manuila, *Structure et évolution de la population rurale* (Bucarest, 1940), p. 45; Sabin Manuila and D. C. Georgescu, *Populația României* (Bucarest, 1938), pp. 83–84; Institutul Central de Statistică, *Comunicări statistice*, No. 18 (August 15, 1947).

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TABLE V. AGRICULTURAL POPULATION, 1941

	Total Population	Rural Population	Agricultural Population	Active in Agriculture	Passive in Agriculture
RUMANIA	13,535,757	10,238,255	9,690,423	6,504,291	3,186,132
Plain of Siret and Prut	2,087,892	1,601,094	1,572,169	1,030,235	541,934
Moldavian Carpathians	949,617	747,918	749,741	489,178	260,563
Muntenian and Oltenian Carpathians	2,577,913	2,190,766	2,117,182	1,379,258	737,924
Plain of the Danube	3,781,925	2,877,906	2,354,502	1,576,694	777,808
Dobrogea	519,297	365,585	331,740	210,714	121,026
Bucovina	356,215	266,619	273,545	185,685	87,860
Transylvanian Plateau	1,781,088	1,376,353	1,186,546	819,298	367,248
Western Transylvania	1,601,860	1,312,014	1,104,998	813,229	291,769

SOURCE: Roman Cresin, *Recensământul agricol al României din 1941, date provizorii*, Biblioteca Statistică, No. 10 (Bucarest, 1945), Table 20.

361 tions, but we know of nothing there before 1510. To the
771 existence of the monastery, which is the seat of a bishop, is due the development of a seminary.

161 THE POPULATION in 1930 was 6,831. In 1931 there were 181
163 births, 24 infant deaths (under one year), 20 still-births, and 125 deaths from all causes. Marriages numbered 61 and divorces 4. The birth-rate is thus high, the infant death-rate considerable, but not so high as might be expected; still-births are numerous.

H. J. F.
E. E. E.

1[of Curtea de Arges -- Analyst]

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BROWN CLAY.
WHITE & GREEN SLIP.

RUMANIA

162 The preliminary figures of the 1930 census do not give details of the various national minorities inhabiting Rumania, and the more reliable estimate will be found in Winkler's "Racial Statistics," from which the following data are extracted:—

Germans	713,564
Russians	174,293
Jews	778,094
Magyars	1,463,373
Bulgarians	351,328
Yugo-Slavs	52,570
Czechoslovaks	31,884
Ukrainians	500,484
Various	404,104
Total	4,469,694

634 The whole kingdom is administratively divided into 71 departments, but in the case of Transylvania, Maramureş, Crishana, and the Banat the departments created out of these provinces do not correspond exactly with the frontiers
161 of the latter. The density of the population per sq. km. is 63 in the old kingdom, including the Dobrudja, 64 in Bessarabia. 82 in Bucovina, and 54 in Transylvania.

163 The birth rate for 1930 was 35 per thousand, while the
165 death rate was 19.4, and the excess of births over deaths reached 278,722, this being the largest figure recorded since the war.

162 The total urban population formed 20.13 per cent, while the rural population formed 79.87 per cent. There were 172 towns, some of which must be mere villages, as at least two are shown to possess less than 1,000 inhabitants. The following towns have a population of over 20,000: Bucarest 631,288, Chişinau 117,016, Cernauţi 111,147, Iassi 102,595, Galatz 101,148, Cluj 98,569, Timişoara 91,866, Oradea 82,355, Ploeşti 77,325, Arad 77,225, Braila 68,310, Craiova 63,063, Brasov 59,234, Constantsa 58,258, Satu-Mare 49,917, Sibiu 48,013, Targul-Mureş 38,116, Buzau 36,115,

[Bucovina]

RACIAL ASPECTS OF ROMANIA'S CASE

162 In the World War small and populous Bucovina withstood for four years the sweep of Russian and Austrian drives over her territory. She emerged greatly transformed, but the extent of this change, especially as regards her population, was only made clear by the Romanian census of 1930 which, coming twenty years after the last Austrian enumeration, assumes the importance of a basic scientific appraisal.

Significantly, that appraisal shows that the Romanians, after 143 years of foreign rule, have retained a relative majority in the province as a whole and an absolute majority in three out of its five counties. The census found less than 1% Russians in Bucovina, about ten times as many Germans and Jews, and almost three times again as many Ruthenians and Ukrainians. Their distribution illustrates the southward migration of Galician farm labor that had theretofore been encouraged by Austria.

The return of Bucovina to Romanian rule, the restoration of her ancient trade with the rich neighboring districts of northern Moldavia and Bessarabia, the endowment of 76,911 of her landless peasantry with 187,300 acres of tillable land of her own, the improvement of communications, sanitation and education, are all positive Romanian achievements checked only temporarily by the Russian invasion of 1940.

163 Moreover, the Romanian element has gained new strength once freed of the constraints of alien interests. On the extent of this gain the second Romanian census, scheduled for December, 1940, but postponed under the pressure of events, would have supplied a wealth of circumstantial information. But a decided trend is discernible even in the available data,[1] that for the years 1935-37, according to which the two counties with a relatively large foreign population, Cernauti and Storojinet, have had the smallest annual excess of births over deaths, while the three counties with large Romanian majorities have shown the greatest increase. The figures are:

County	Population in % of Total				Annual Increase per 1,000		
	Romanians	Germans	Ruthenians	Jews	1935	1936	1937
Suceava	79.5	8.2	1.7	5.5	10.0	14.7	13.8
Campulung	61.3	20.2	6.7	8.2	11.9	15.1	12.2
Radauti	55.4	11.1	8.7	7.2	10.9	14.5	11.9
Storojinet	33.9	3.3	45.5	9.0	7.0	13.2	10.9
Cernauti	25.7	6.4	44.5	16.7	3.3	5.3	2.9

[1] Anuarul statistic al Romaniei, 1937 si 1938 (Statistical Yearbook of Romania, 1937 and 1938), Bucharest, 1939, p. 86 & seq.